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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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WOODCOCK WASHBURN LLP
ONE LIBERTY PLACE, 46TH FLOOR
1650 MARKET STREET
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103

EXAMINER

AL AUBAIDI, RASHA S

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2642

DATE MAILED: 07/14/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/703,312

Applicant(s)

LALJIANI, GHULAM ABBAS

Examiner

Rasha S. AL-Aubaidi

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 April 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11,13-16,21-24,26,27 and 29-38 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11,13-16,21-24,26,27 and 29-38 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION***Response to Amendment***

1. Applicant's amendment filed on April 12, 2005 has been entered. No claims have been amended. No further claims have been canceled. Claim 38 has been added. Claims 1-11, 13-16, 21-24, 26-27, and 29-38 are still pending in this application, with claims 1, 16, 26, 30 and 38 being independent.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. Claims 1-11, 13-16, 21-24, 26-27, and 29-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Morley et al (US PAT # 5,848,132) in view of Brennan et al (US PAT# 5,329,578).

Regarding claim 1, Morley teaches a system to schedule calls for placement comprising: a service switching point (SSP 2, see Fig.1) being in communication with a first telephone station (this components is not shown, obviously it is there) associated with a scheduling party (this reads on the customer) and at least one other telephone station associated with at least one scheduled party to be called (this reads on the other destination that the pre-booked call will be made at the specified time by the customer, see col.3, lines 53-54), said first telephone station receiving call schedule information on a telephone interface and communicating said call schedule information (see col.3, lines 64-67) to said service switching point (SSP 2); a service node (SN, this reads on IP 15, for example, in Fig. 1) communicating with the service switching

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point (SSP 2) ; said service switching point (SSP) adapted to connect at least one other telephone station with said first telephone station in accordance with said call schedules (this reads on the other destination that the pre-booked call will be made at the specified time by the customer, see col.3, lines 53-54); and a service control point (SCP this reads on SCP 8, see Fig.1) communicating with said service switching point (SSP 2), and comprising: an administrative computing application, a call scheduling computing application (for the use of an administrative computing application, a call scheduling computing application it would have been obvious to have these applications/software applied in the AIN environment in order to help improving and speeding the procedure of scheduling telephone calls in advance), and a call information database (this basically reads on SCP 8 storing the schedule information, see col.5, lines 7-8), wherein said service control point (SCP 8) and said service node (SN) place a confirmation call (see col. 4, lines 13-28 and lines 47-52 also see Fig. 10).

Morley does not specifically teach said service control point (SCP) and said service node (SN) place a confirmation call to an alternate telephone station associated with said scheduling party.

However, Brennan teaches a method in a communications system for routing calls (see abstract). Routing the call would be based on routing schedule, which specified by the subscriber that is based on a current time of day (see col. 6, lines 50-68, col. 7, lines 1-15, and table 3.0 in col. 7). Brennan also teaches

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routing calls using a sequence of destinations (the sequence of destinations may reads on alternate telephone, see table 3.0 in col. 7 such as Home Car, Cottage).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the feature of routing calls to alternate telephone number, as taught by Brennan, into the Morley system in order to provide the convenience to the user/subscriber. Also, this will enhance the chances of reaching the scheduling party anywhere in order to confirm the conference information with him/her for example.

Claims 11, 16, 30, 34 and 38 are rejected for the same reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 1.

Claim 16 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 1. Regarding the features of (a) service switching point (SSP), accepting call schedule information from first telephone station, wherein call schedule information comprises time for the scheduled call, a date for the scheduled call, a telephone number for the scheduled call, and telephone number for the confirmation call (this basically read on providing the required information in order to schedule the call, see Fig. 3) and (d) monitoring said stored call schedule information by said service control point (SCP) to determine if a scheduled call is to be placed (this is obvious, because when the date and

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time reaches for the scheduled call since SCP 8, processes the connection of the call between the customer and the other destination).

Regarding claim 38, the claimed feature of "accepting information by the SSP from telephone interface indicative of calls to be scheduled" is extremely obvious, since this step is nothing but to confirm that all the information provided such as date, time, and number(s) are accurate.

Claim 2 recites "the service switching point (SSP 2) upon receipt of a request from said first telephone station to schedule a call (this reads on the customer desire to schedule a call, see col.3, lines 53-64), sends a request to said service control point (SCP) to execute said administrative computing application and said call scheduling application, said administrative computing application determining if said first telephone station is allowed to schedule calls, said call scheduling application, upon confirmation that said first telephone station is allowed to schedule calls, cooperating with said service switching point (SSP) to accept, store and manage required call scheduling data". Morley teaches that the service is available to the customer (see col.3, lines 64-65). In addition, services like call scheduling, call waiting, or call forwarding would not be provided to customers without subscription to these services.

Claim 3 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 1. Also, for the feature of prompt said first telephone station to input call

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schedule information indicative of desired scheduled calls, this basically reads on the IP 15, for example in Fig.1 to enter the appropriate date and time (see col.4, lines 1-10).

Regarding claim 4 and 17, Morley teaches said prompts comprise information representative of: a request to enter the time of said scheduled call, a request to enter the frequency of said scheduled call, and a request to enter the telephone number for said scheduled call (see col.4, lines 1-20), and a request to enter the telephone number of said confirmation call (this is obvious, since it may read on the scenario of requesting a telephone number to where the confirmation call would be sent).

Claim 5 recites "call schedule application of said service control point (SCP) creates a record for each scheduled call and storing said record in said call information database". Morley teaches storing the record and the data information for each scheduled call (see col. 5, lines 42-51). If the reference teaches storing the record for one scheduled call then obviously it is possible to store the record in the database for other calls.

Regarding claims 7 and 22, Morley teaches service switching point (SSP) launches a trigger application (see col. 3, lines 53-60) in response to the request from said first telephone station, said trigger application generating the request to said service control point (SCP).

Regarding claims 6 and 8, Morley teaches the request to said service control point (SCP 8) from the service switching point (SSP 2) comprises information identifying a telephone station associated with said scheduling party to call at the time of a scheduled call (this basically reads on providing the scheduling party telephone number/CLID information with the other data in order to schedule the call, see col. 3, lines 53-60).

Regarding claim 9, Morley teaches said service control point (SCP 8), in response to the request from the service switching point (SSP 2), searches said database for information identifying service nodes (SN) adapted to place calls to said scheduling party and to said scheduled party (see col. 4, lines 24-29).

Claim 10 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 1 and 16. Morley teaches the SN, which reads on IP (15) may be used to complete the scheduled call and a request to place a confirmation call to the scheduling party, said service switching point (SSP 2) communicating with least one of said service nodes (SN) a request to place said confirmation call (see col. 4, lines 13-29).

Regarding claim 13, Morley teaches said service switch point (SSP) to place id scheduled call to said scheduled party using said identified service node (SN), see col. 4, lines 59-65.

Claim 14 recites "call schedule application of said service control point (SCP), upon receiving no confirmation for said scheduled call, deletes the created record for the scheduled call". This is obvious, because there is no sense of having the call-scheduled information occupying storage space in the database when there is no confirmation received to continue processing the pre-booking for this particular call.

Regarding claim 15, Morley teaches the connection between said service switching point (SSP) and said at least one other telephone station comprises a second service switching point (SSP 2). For example, see Fig.1, and col. 2, lines 44-56.

Claim 21 recites "said confirmation comprises any of: a DTMF code and an electronic message". This basically may read on the voice prompts (see col. 3, lines 40-43).

Regarding claim 23 recites "the database at the service control point (SCP 8) comprises information identifying for said service switching point (SSP) cooperating plurality of service nodes (SN) for use when processing scheduled calls". See Fig.1, SSP 2, IP 15 and IP 16.

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Claim 24 recites "the act of identifying to said service switching point (SSP) the plurality of service nodes (SN), comprises transmitting the directory numbers corresponding to the plurality of service nodes (SN) by said service control point (SCP)". This reads on the transmitted digits between the customers' lines, (see col. 2, lines 44-50)

Claim 26 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 1, 16 and 30. Also, for receiving a response from said first party indicating that said first party should be connected to said telephone station and connecting said first party to said telephone station (see col. 5, lines 52-67 and col. 6, lines 1-8). The claimed feature of second telephone number at which said confirmation call should be placed (this basically reads on the scheduled party phone number, see col. 5, lines 8-10).

The claimed feature of "information that is received from a telephone interface of a telephone station" as recited in claim 27 is inherent.

Regarding claim 29, Morley teaches said information further indicates a date (this basically reads on the scheduled party phone number, see col. 5, lines 7-10).

Claim 31 recites "said service control point (SCP) and said service node (SN) place said confirmation call before said scheduled telephone call becomes

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due". This is obvious, because the purpose of placing confirmation is notify or alert the scheduling party or even the scheduled party about the occurrence of a conference call at a certain time and date.

Claim 32 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 31.

Claim 33 basically reads on the scenario of placing a confirmation that the conference is happening at this moment. Many references teach the feature of confirming the establishment of a conference call. Therefore this is obvious and well known in the art.

Regarding claims 35-37 features. Obviously it is beneficial to user/subscriber to have a confirmation call made to both destination (main telephone number and the alternate telephone number). This of course will increase the possibilities of receiving the confirmation by the user/subscriber at any location.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments filed 04/12/2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argument on page 11 of the "Remark" states that "both

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Brennan and Morley teach away from the claimed feature of placing a scheduling confirmation call to an alternate phone station associated with the scheduling party". Applicant also argues "no where in the record is a reference that provides the forwarding of a confirmation call related to call scheduling". Clearly, the examiner presented the 103 claims rejection in the following form: the Morley reference, which discloses allowing a customer to pre-book or schedule an automated telephone conference. Also, Morley provides the customer with confirmation for that scheduled call (see abstract of the invention and col. 4, lines 16-52). Since the examiner realizes that Morley place a confirmation to the customer line and to an alternative number, it was necessary to introduce the Brennan reference. Brennan teaches a method in a communications system for routing calls (see abstract). Routing the call would be based on routing schedule, which specified by the subscriber that is based on a current time of day (see col. 6, lines 50-68, col. 7, lines 1-15, and table 3.0 in col. 7). Brennan specifically teaches using an alternative, different or second number in the case of not being able to reach the subscriber as the first number (routing calls using a sequence of destinations reads on alternate telephone, see table 3.0 in col. 7 such as Home Car, Cottage). Thus, the idea of using different or alternative phone number other than the main phone number is actually what the examiner was trying to present in the above 103 rejection. Yet, using the confirmation feature that was taught in the primary reference Morley, with the alternative phone number that was suggested by Brennan will provide a logical and comprehensive 103 rejection. The motivation obviously is to enhance the chances of reaching

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the scheduling party anywhere in order to confirm the conference information with him/her.

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Moon et al (US PAT # 6, 075, 992) teaches in Fig. 4 a screen display 54 provides a message 76 indicating the place where the designated recipient is believed to be according to the corresponding time. The message contains that Jane Doe currently at home 555-1212, if you like to call Jane Doe please press call or you have the option to press the "other" button (82). Pressing the "other" button will place the call to alternative phone number (see Col. 5, lines 42-58).

5. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will

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the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rasha S AL-Aubaidi whose telephone number is (571) 272-7481. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30 am to 5:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ahmad F. Matar, can be reached on (571) 272-7488.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Examiner
Rasha S. Al-Aubaidi
Art Unit 2642
07/07/2005



BING Q. BUI
PRIMARY EXAMINER